Listing of Claims

Please amend the claims as follows. This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

CLAIMS

- 1.-29. (Canceled)
- 30. (Previously Presented) An electroluminescent compound as claimed in claim 49, wherein M is iridium and n is 2.
- 31. (Previously Presented) An electroluminescent compound as claimed in claim 49 wherein at least one of R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ includes a group selected from aliphatic groups and aromatic groups.
 - 32.-33. (Canceled)
- 34. (Previously Presented) An electroluminescent compound as claimed in claim 49 wherein R₂ is a phenyl group or a substituted phenyl group.
 - 35.-37. (Canceled)

38. (Previously Presented) An electroluminescent device comprising: (i) a first electrode; (ii) a second electrode; and, (iii) a layer of an electroluminescent material according to claim 49 positioned between said first and second electrodes.

39. (Previously Presented) An electroluminescent device according to claim 38 further comprising a layer of a hole transmitting material positioned between the first electrode and the layer of electroluminescent material.

40. (Canceled)

- 41. (Previously Presented) An electroluminescent device according to claim 38 wherein the electroluminescent material is mixed with a hole transmitting material.
- 42. (Previously Presented) An electroluminescent device according to claim 38 wherein a layer of an electron transmitting material is positioned between an electrode that serves as a cathode element and the layer of electroluminescent material.
 - 43. (Previously Presented) An electroluminescent device according to claim 42 wherein the electron transmitting material is a metal quinolate.
 - 44. (Previously Presented) An electroluminescent device according to claim 42 wherein the electron transmitting material is a metal quinolate selected from the group consisting of aluminum quinolate, zirconium quinolate and lithium quinolate.

- 45.. (Currently Amended) An electroluminescent device according to claim 42 wherein the electron transmitting material is selected from the group consisting of:
- (a) a material having the general chemical formula Mx(DBM)_n where Mx is a metal, DBM is dibenzoyl methane, and n is the valency of Mx;
 - (b) a cyano anthracene
 - (c) a polystyrene sulphonate; and,
- (d) a compound having a general chemical formula selected from the group consisting of:

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & \\ & & & \\ & &$$

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- 46. (Previously Presented) An electroluminescent device according to claim 38 wherein an electron transmitting material is mixed with the electroluminescent material.
- 47. (Previously Presented) An electroluminescent device according to claim 38 wherein the first electrode comprises a transparent, electricity-conducting glass electrode.
- 48. (Previously Presented) An electroluminescent device according to claim 38 wherein the second electrode comprises a material selected from the group consisting of aluminum, calcium, lithium, magnesium, alloys thereof, and silver/magnesium alloys.
- 49. (Currently Amended) An electroluminescent compound having the following general chemical formula:

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$$\begin{bmatrix} R_1 \\ R_2 \\ S \\ N \\ N \\ R_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_1 \\ S \\ N \\ N \\ R_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

wherein R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ can be the same or different and are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen; substituted and unsubstituted hydrocarbyl groups; substituted and unsubstituted aromatic, heterocyclic and polycyclic ring structures; aryloxy groups; fluorocarbon groups; halogens; and thiophenyl groups; further wherein R₁, R₂ and R₃ can also form substituted and unsubstituted fused aromatic, heterocyclic and polycyclic ring structures and can be copolymerisable with a monomer; M is selected from the group consisting of ruthenium, rhodium, palladium, osmium, iridium and platinum; and the sum (n+1) is equal to the valency of M.

50. (Currently Amended) An electroluminescent compound as claimed in claim 49 wherein at least one of R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ includes a group selected from heterocyclic groups, alkoxy groups, aryloxy groups, carboxy groups, substituted and unsubstituted phenyl groups, fluorophenyl groups, biphenyl groups, phenanthrene groups, anthracene groups, naphthyl groups, fluorene groups, and heterocyclic groups.

- 51. (Previously Presented) An electroluminescent device according to claim 39 wherein the hole transmitting material is a polyaromatic amine.
- 52. (Previously Presented) An electroluminescent device according to claim 39 wherein the hole transmitting material is a copolymer of aniline.
- 53. (Previously Presented) An electroluminescent device according to claim 39 wherein the hole transmitting material is a conjugated polymer.
- 54. (Previously Presented) An electroluminescent device according to claim 39 wherein the hole transmitting material is a conjugated polymer selected from the group consisting of poly (p-phenylenevinylene) (PPV) and copolymers of PPV.
- 55. (Currently Amended) A method of preparing an electroluminescent compound having the general chemical formula

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$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R_1 \\
\hline
S \\
N \\
N \\
R_2
\end{array}$$

wherein R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ can be the same or different and are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen; substituted and unsubstituted hydrocarbyl groups; substituted and unsubstituted aliphatic groups; substituted and unsubstituted aromatic, heterocyclic and polycyclic ring structures; aryloxy groups; fluorocarbon groups; halogens; and thiophenyl groups; further wherein R₁, R₂ and R₃ can also form substituted and unsubstituted fused aromatic, heterocyclic and polycyclic ring structures and can be copolymerisable with a monomer, said method comprising the step of reacting a compound having the general chemical formula

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$$\begin{bmatrix} R_3 \\ X \\ X \\ R_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

with a compound having the general chemical formula

$$R_4$$
 R_1
 R_2

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$$\begin{array}{c}
 & R_4 \\
 & R_1 \\
 & R_2
\end{array}$$

where R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_4 are defined as above; X is an anion; M is selected from the group consisting of ruthenium, rhodium, palladium, osmium, iridium and platinum; and the sum (n+1) is equal to the valency of M.